



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission
2600 Washington Avenue
Third Floor
Newport News, Virginia 23607*

Matthew J. Strickler
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

April 30, 2018

TO: VIRGINIA HORSESHOE CRAB INDUSTRY

FROM: VIRGINIA MARINE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RE: CLOSURE OF THE 2018 GENERAL CATEGORY HORSESHOE CRAB FISHERY EFFECTIVE SUNSET, APRIL 30th, 2018.

Effective Sunset, Monday, April 30th, 2018, the Virginia horseshoe crab general category permit commercial fishery will close. Based upon landing reports from Virginia seafood buyers and horseshoe crab harvesters, it is projected that Virginia will have harvested 100% of the horseshoe crab general category quota allocated to be harvested by Virginia Horseshoe Crab General Category Permittees, by the above date and time.

Therefore, after Sunset, April 30th, 2018, the possession or landing of any horseshoe crabs in Virginia by any gear type except trawl, dredge, pound net, or by hand shall be prohibited (Chapter 4 VAC 20-900-10 et seq.).

If you have any questions or comments please contact Adam Kenyon (757) 247-8068.

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

Telephone (757) 247-2200 (757) 247-2292 V/TDD Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646 V/TDD